

REMARKS

Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Claim Amendments

In this Amendment, applicants have amended claim 1, canceled claims 17 and 31, and added new claims 32-33. Applicant is not conceding that the subject matter encompassed by the claims prior to this Amendment is not patentable over the art cited by the Office. Claims were amended, canceled and added in this Amendment solely to facilitate expeditious prosecution the application. Applicants respectfully reserve the right to pursue claims, including the subject matter encompassed by the claims as presented prior to this Amendment, together with additional claims, in one or more continuing applications.

In the Office Action, claims 25, 26 and 31 were objected to as being dependent on a rejected base claim, but were indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form. By the present amendment, independent claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of claim 31. New claim 32 has been added to present claim 25 in independent form. New claim 33 contains the subject matter of claim 26. Claims 17 and 31 have been canceled.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request that all rejections be withdrawn and that Notices of Allowability and Allowance be issued.

Respectfully submitted,

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